

AMENDMENTS TO THE SPECIFICATION

On page 1, at line 3 after the title and before the first paragraph, insert the following:

1. INTRODUCTION

On page 1, at line 7 after the first paragraph but before the second paragraph, insert the following:

2. BACKGROUND OF THE INVENTION

On page 2, at lines 19 before the paragraph beginning with “The present invention” insert the following:

3. SUMMARY OF THE INVENTION

The present invention is directed to a method of billing a fee for a service via an electronic route, comprising the steps of: a) transmitting a telephone number of a chargeable service telecommunication connection associated with a service provider to a service buyer; b) monitoring the build-up of the telecommunication connection between the provider and the buyer by a line provider; c) billing the fee for the requested service via the service connection; and d) releasing the requested service to the buyer by the service provider, whereby an order code is allocated and transmitted to the service buyer during transmission of the telephone service number by the service provider, and wherein the service connection is a direct-dial connection of which the final number is used as the order code.

4. BRIEF DESCRIPTION OF THE DRAWINGS

Figure 1 is a schematic of step 1 of the present invention in which the service buyer uses his computer, PC, to make contact with the internet server, S. On the internet, a service provider is represented by his web site, A. T1 refers to the telephone connection; T2

refers to the service telephone connection; and B refers to the monitoring device.

Figure 2 is a schematic of step 2 of the present invention in which the service buyer makes contact, via the internet server, S, with the provider via the web site, A.

Figure 3 is a schematic of step 3 of the present invention in which a connection is produced from the service provider, A, via the internet server, S, to a monitoring device, B.

Figure 4 is a schematic of step 4 of the present invention in which the monitoring device, B, makes contact with the service telephone connection, T2 of the service provider, A, and monitors the making of a connection.

Figure 5 is a schematic of step 5 of the present invention in which the service buyer dials the service connection, T2 of the service provider, A, via the telephone connection, T1. The fees invoiced to him for this call are credited to the owner of the services connection, T2, minus a service fee for the telecommunications company. The monitoring device, B, monitors the duration of the connection.

Figure 6 is a schematic of step 6 of the present invention in which the monitoring device, B, reports the fact that the necessary connection duration for the requested fee has been reached to the service provider, A, via the internet server, S. The required amount has therefore been completely billed. The connection between the telephone connection, T1, of the service buyer and the service connection, T2 is broken, which can be done by the service provider, A, or initiated directed by the monitoring device, B.

Figure 7 is a schematic of step 7 of the present invention in which the service provider, A, then provides the service requested by the service buyer; the desired file can be downloaded.

5. DETAILED DESCRIPTION OF THE INVENTION

On page 5 at line 3, before the paragraph beginning with "A preferred exemplary" insert the following:

6. EXAMPLE

After the claims, insert the Abstract of the Invention submitted herewith.